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THE  
**FARMER AND PLANTER,**

DEVOTED TO  
**AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE,**  
**DOMESTIC AND RURAL ECONOMY.**

ILLUSTRATED WITH ENGRAVINGS OF  
**FARM IMPLEMENTS, BUILDINGS, DOMESTIC ANIMALS,**  
**SHRUBS, FLOWERS, FRUITS, &c.**

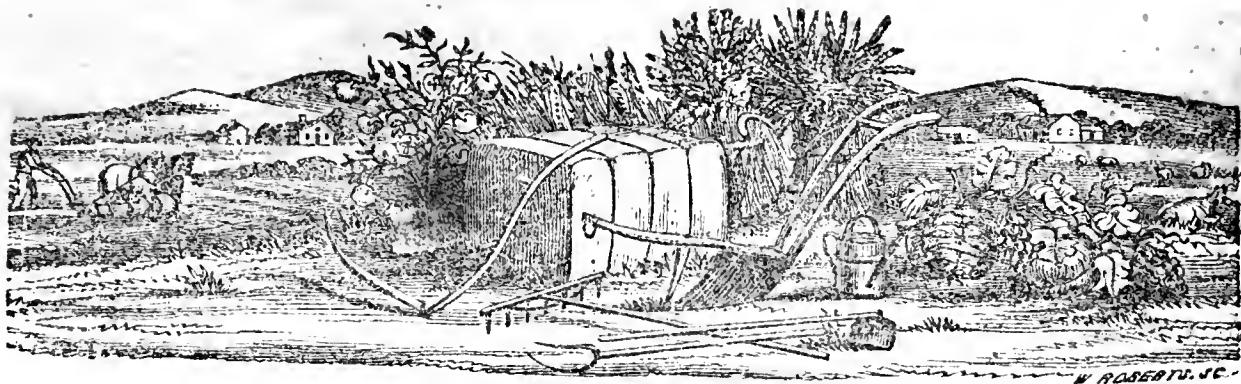
EDITED BY  
**GEORGE SEABORN.**

**VOLUME IX---1858.**

PENDLETON, S. C.  
GEORGE SEABORN, Publisher and Proprietor.

1858.





# THE FARMER AND PLANTER.

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic and Rural Economy.

VOL. IX.

PENDLETON, S. C., JANUARY, 1858.

No. I.

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BY  
GEORGE SEABORN,  
Editor and Proprietor.

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We give below by resolution of the Society, the speech of Gen. F. N. GARVIN, before the Walhalla Agricultural Society, which we take from the Pickens Courier, having failed to receive the Banner, in which it first appeared.—ED. F. & P.

Speech of Gen. F. N. Garvin,  
Delivered before the Agricultural Society, at  
Walhalla, on Friday, the 16th day of October,  
1857.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—The honorable position in which I am placed before you today, and the high and noble vocation which I am called upon to support and defend, I fear may suffer from my inability to grace the position, and do the subject justice. Too long, much too long, has the farmers vocation been looked upon by many as rather an under pursuit. This is not as it should be; for, all must be satisfied by reflection, that men of all other pursuits are dependent upon the farmer (or planter, if you please), and his products for

their subsistence and prosperity. Let there be short crops for a few years—trade languishes, the mechanics tools rust, and the pursuit of science and knowledge are stayed. Hence it is that all should henceforth look upon agriculture as the highest and most honorable pursuit under heaven; then, and not until then, will that pursuit receive that attention that its importance demands. True it is, that societies and fairs are doing much to promote agriculture and its interests; yet, far more may be done by educating young men for the pursuit of agriculture. I presume to say that no man can be a complete farmer without at least understanding the sciences of geology, mineralogy and chemistry.

It must now be apparent to all that we must in a great degree depart from the mode of farming taught us by our fathers. The forests have been felled and the soil worn out, and but few of us have any more woodland to spare; so as to follow in the steps of our fathers, who, when they had exhausted their fields, returned to the forests and cleared "fresh lands," thereby to enable them again to fill their cribs and barns. But, alas! from whence are others to be filled? Surely not from "fresh lands," but from improved and reclaimed lands.

The reclaiming of exhausted fields has as yet received but little attention from most of our societies. I do not recollect of ever having seen or heard of a premium being offered for improving or reclaiming worn out or exhausted fields, and I have no doubt that it is chiefly owing to the fact that our farmers are not sufficiently educated to enable them to understand in what way they can do it the cheapest and best. I have heard of premiums being offered for the best essay on improving or reclaiming soils. So far so good. But theory alone will not do without practice, and then most of our practice avails us little. What, let me ask, do we gain in the way of agricultural improvement by offering and awarding premiums for the best acre or half acre of corn or other grain,

unless it be the product of improved soils, accompanied with the manner of improving the same? As it is, ten to one such premiums are awarded to fortunate individuals who are owners of better and more productive soils than their less fortunate neighbors, or perchance some one may have succeeded in using means to produce a single crop successfully. In such case the pursuit of agriculture gains but little.

It is known to all that a heavy dressing of cotton seed will cause the poorest soils to yield an abundant crop of wheat, leaving the soil little improved in such case. What information do we gain, or how is the agricultural interest promoted.

The great and leading objects of agricultural societies should be the acquiring and diffusing of agricultural knowledge in improving the soil, stock, agricultural implements, the proper methods of arranging farms and the buildings thereon, the management and treatment of domestic animals, the cost of rearing stock, producing grain, and raising pork.

There are but few farmers who can give an approximate estimate of the cost of raising pork. In offering a premium for the heaviest hog, what information is gained if the cost of raising it is not furnished. Two individuals may compete: one produces a hog weighing 300 lbs., the other one that weighs 250 lbs.—Then of course the premium is awarded to the 300 lb. hog, and it may have cost 50 per cent more to produce it. Every one knows that it would be better and more to the interest of the farmer to produce the hog weighing 250 lbs., at a cost of \$12.50, than the 300 lb. hog at \$22.50, which would be the cost of raising or producing the hogs, assuming one to be produced at a cost of 5 cents per lb., and the other at a cost 50 per cent higher, would be 7½ cents per lb., which foots up the sums already given, and makes the difference in weight, which is only 50 lbs., cost 20 cents per lb. To be profitably informed, we should know the method of feeding, and that would at once give us the cost of raising. Every farmer should know what it costs him to raise his pork, and the cheapest way to do it. He should also know what is the greatest amount of grain and roots his soil can be made to produce per acre, and what it costs to repair his soil. It may be said that this is not possible. Why not keep an account of grain and other substances fed to your pigs until you make them into pork. Then you have the cost at once of raising your pork.

And it will not be very difficult to ascertain the capacity of your soil. To do so, consult your means. Lay out your plat or piece of ground according to your means, (taking care not to go beyond your means, as that would lead to failure). Then have your soil analyzed. (I say have it done, as I suppose there is scarcely one present who can do it, from the fact that they have not been educated for that purpose). By so doing you can ascertain what should be applied to your soil to make it produce best any kind of grain or roots that you may require. Keep an account of the cost of materials applied, the cost of application, the

cost of culture, and you have the cost of improving your soil and producing your crops.

Gentlemen, I suppose many of you would doubt if some gentleman would come here next fall and report that he had succeeded in raising at the rate of 150 bushels of corn per acre, or 50 bushels of wheat, or 500 bushels of sweet or Irish potatoes, or 1,000 bushels of turnips. Yet, there can be but little doubt that most of our soils are capable of being made to produce such results, as much larger have been produced in other parts.

A few years ago a Mr. YOUNG, of Kentucky, reported to the Patent office that he had, if I mistake not, raised 196 bushels of corn per acre. You say Mr. Young's Kentucky soil is far superior to ours. Admitted. But that is no reason why ours cannot be made as good as his. But to do this we must understand the sciences so as to enable us to analyze the soils, and find wherein Mr. Young's differs from ours, and then apply to ours such substances as it may be deficient in, and then with the same culture we may expect like results in crops.

Such reasoning must be plain to all. Then away with the old foggy musty notion, that it is no use to educate boys to be farmers. It is true, that there are a great many good farmers that are not educated, and it is equally as true that they might be much better farmers if they were liberally educated. Where is there an educated farmer that can truly horizontalize his farm or equally grade his horizontal ditches, both of which are absolutely necessary to a well conducted farm. And again: by analyzing roots and grains their component parts are found to be quite different, which component parts are either extracted from the earth or gathered from the atmosphere. How, then, is an uneducated man to ascertain what his soil may be deficient in to produce a good crop of whatever he may wish to sow or plant. Most soils contain more or less of the component parts of the roots and grains, but it is found that in different soils they abound in different degrees, hence it is that some soils are better adapted to the growth of one plant than another. Consequently, if a man is unable to ascertain what are the component parts of his soil, he is also unable to know what he can grow most successfully. It strikes me that it is just as essential that a man should be educated to be a farmer, as it is that he should to be a doctor or lawyer, although a poor or bad farmer is not so dangerous to society as a pettifogger or a quack. The poor or bad farmer is only useless to society whilst the others rob and kill.

The farmer, being the head and front of society, should be educated to enable him to maintain his proper position in society. The greatest men the world ever produced were farmers—educated farmers. Yes! great and good WASHINGTON, who might have been a king, was a farmer, and so was old Roman CINCINNATUS, who shed tears when he was, by the unanimous call of his country, taken from his plow to discharge the duties of one of the highest offices within the gift of the Roman people.

As civilization and education advances, so advances agriculture. I scarce need call your at-

tention to the fact that neither the Red men of America, nor the Black men of Africa, are agriculturists. It is true that by the fostering care bestowed by our Government upon the Red men of America, by educating them; they are in some instances changing from the pursuit of game to that of agriculture—their minds being capable of cultivation. But very different with the Africans; although they have been surrounded from the earliest ages by the Egyptians and other agricultural nations, they have made but little progress in agriculture; owing to the fact that their minds are not capable of receiving a liberal education or proper calculation for the pursuit of agriculture; although they are better physically constituted for it than any other race of men. Hence, we see that it requires more mental than physical ability to make a nation or individuals agriculturists. Then, in a certain ratio, as the mental faculties are cultivated, they become more powerful.

Gentlemen, having said this much in favor of educating your sons to be farmers, I leave the subject with you, with the hope that you will give it that due consideration that its importance demands.

It is more than probable that our system of agriculture has to undergo a change. We will in all probability give up the culture of cotton for that of the Chinese sugar cane. If a great number of gentlemen all over the country, who have been experimenting with it, be not greatly mistaken, it will be one of the most valuable products of our soil. From experiments rudely made, it is certain that 400 gallons of syrup per acre may be produced. But suppose 200 gallons of syrup to be the yield per acre, and that at 25 cts. per gallon, will be \$50 per acre, and equal to a yield of 2,000 lbs. cotton per acre at 2½ cts. per lb., which is over the average price of cotton and under the average price of syrup. As to the cost of culture, it will not probably cost as much to cultivate the cane as cotton; and far less to manufacture the syrup than to gather the cotton. And you perceive that I have given the cotton the highest quantity that it is possible for our soil to produce, and the cane only about one half the amount that has been produced, and that without experience in the culture of the cane, or the manufacture of the syrup.

Now, let us inquire and see how the figures will stand if we produce 400 gallons of syrup per year (and I have been informed by a gentleman who saw a piece of land from which 190 gallons have been produced, and he was of opinion that there was less than half an acre.) Then it would be \$100 dollars per acre; and suppose the yield of cotton to be 1,000 lbs. per acre, at 2½ cts., would be \$25 per acre. Then we see that the manufacturer of the syrup exceeds the cotton planter 300 per cent. And the great probability is that the cane will not be so exhausting to our soil as cotton. With due deference, I submit that our society use all necessary means to encourage the growing of the cane, and the manufacture of the syrup.

As I have said before, the great and leading object of agricultural societies should be the

acquiring and diffusing of agricultural knowledge. In offering premiums, it should be done with a view of gaining information both practical and profitable. Perhaps there is nothing more deleterious to the acquiring and diffusing of agricultural knowledge through societies, than false delicacy. All must admit that if the members of societies when they meet would give an account of their experience and observation upon such subjects connected with agriculture as they may have made, with diagrams of their buildings, such as barns, stables, cribs, cow-sheds, &c., much information would be gained. But false delicacy creeps in and cuts off such fountains of knowledge. False reasoning may also do its part of the mischief, as many reason thus: It is so simple and plain that all understand it as well as I do, and will sneer at me if I should attempt to instruct. Let me ask, what could be more simple than the discovery of soaking seed wheat in a solution of bluestone; and yet the knowledge that it is a certain preventive for smut in wheat is worth millions; for, without a preventive, we should years ago have ceased to have raised wheat. I could go on with like illustrations, but all know—

"That from small streams large rivers flow,

And tall oaks from small acorns grow."

And that large stores of knowledge may be acquired from small contributions.

The time is fast approaching when our whole system of farming and raising of stock will have to undergo a change. Much less land will be cultivated and abundance more produce made, fewer stock kept, and more beef and pork made. He who contributes most, in bringing about such a change, will be the greatest benefactor to his country. When such a change is effected, then will be stayed the wild rush of emigration. Then we will ascend the mound of prosperity, and bask in the sunshine of comfort and ease. Then let me admonish you by all that is sacred to the memory of man, by the memory of your ancestors's graves, by the memory of youthful connections; by the memory of the old church, where, at a tender mother's knee, you were taught the way to worship a true and living God; and by the memory of the old mansion wherein you were reared to manhood; to aid in bringing about such a change.

Every farmer could improve some amount of soil to its highest capacity. Yet, I do not suppose that there is an acre in the district that has been so improved. It is to be hoped that as soon as we have the facility of importing foreign substances, we will at once commence the work of improvement, by the application of guano, plaster and other salts, to our soil. The most sanguine expectations may be realised; but, aside from all foreign substances, if more attention was paid to the collection of vegetable matter, and keeping the cow-sheds and hog lots properly littered, large quantities of excellent manure could thus be made, which would not only pay us in the increase of our crops and improvement of our soil, but also in the improvement of our stock and in keeping them.

Gentlemen: In conclusion, allow me to sug-

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gest that our society commence the work of improvement—solid and lasting improvement. Let our mother earth be allowed a full share of our fostering care, and consideration, and he who is recreant will be false to himself, false to posterity, and false to humanity!

For the Farmer and Planter.  
Hogs.

MR. EDITOR:—As our friend Rigmarelle has abandoned all his outposts and leveled his batteries at hog premiums alone, it affords strong presumptive evidence that he has found his position untenable. We will deal gently with him, for we are confident his intentions were good and his zeal indisputable.

Rigmarelle sneers at the Berkshires, Essex, Suffolk, as belonging to aristocratic British families, and in the same breath advocates the claims of the Woburn, Grazier and Chester County hog. Now, where did these breeds originate—the Woburn was introduced to notice by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Bedford—the Suffolk is neither more nor less than a variety of the Grazier—(descendents of the Chinese Hogs,)—and the Chester County is another of the foreign fancy “privileged classes.”

We have never met an intelligent Kentuckian who did not admit that the Kentucky hogs had been improved greatly by the admixture of foreign blood. As to aristocracy, we look upon the hog as a genuine aristocrat, call him by what name you please. We have a pen of hogs just now put up to fatten—crosses of Berkshire, Suffolk, Grazier, Chinese, &c. They have had the run of the harvest fields, a little sugar cane, and green corn and corn stalks to keep them improving in September and October—and then the run of the pea fields (not much, by the by.). They are all fat enough to kill but six “shifty” fellows, who have always run off their fat by seizing the first ear and by running wherever they heard an acorn or persimmon fall, to be first at the tree. We have tried enough of “shifty” breeds, and prefer the animal that will quietly set about filling his belly with whatever is most convenient, and take on fat instead of bone. We have never found any difficulty in making a hog big enough or soon enough, if we could keep him fat.

But Rigmarelle condemns the practice of offering premiums for breeders. He goes for premiums for the fattest hog—in other words, to turn the Fair into a butcher’s stall. The proposition is simply ridiculous. The hotel keeper, butcher or fancy breeder, nearest the

Fair Grounds, would take the premium in nine cases out of ten. Their slop costs them nothing, they would say—it was saved. My corn, says the Potts Cove Farmer, is worth next to nothing up here. Then send it to Columbia and sell it for \$1 per bushel, would reply the Fancy Breeder, and so it would go. To raise fat hogs, is not the province of the Society—it is to encourage improvements, induce all the varieties of breeds to be brought together, and enable the farmer to choose for himself what is best adapted to his wants. It is to do this more cheaply than an individual could do it for himself. There are no individuals in the “surroundings of Potts Cove,” who have been more successful as planters, than Jno. D. Williams, and J. A. Egleberger, and they patronize Essex, Suffolk and Berkshire. Rigmarelle admits that the common breeds have been improved by crossing, *but degenerate*. That is the fault of the man, not of the animal. We simply ask, how many farmers would, for the premium, risk his *fat hogs* a few hundred miles travel and pay all expenses. The man who exhibits a breeder, has a double purpose—the premium and the reputation of his breed; hence, ulterior profits. The exhibitor of fat hogs, has an eye only to his bacon. After all the fuss made about last year’s premiums, and an extension of the list to allow any quantity of hogs mixed, grades or natives, to come, they came not—the hog show was worse than last year, and the natives were not even called by their right names. So with the cows—but one or two natives, and they were ruled out as inferior animals.

Where are all the native breeds of cows, sheep and hogs, that were lowing and bleating and grunting to get into the ring last summer—have the short pastures cut them off? Yet the Fair was a decided hit, everybody says.

HOTCH POTCH.

For the Farmer and Planter.  
Reports---Competitors for Premiums, &c.

MR. EDITOR:—I am sorry to perceive that the action of the committee appointed to confer with you respecting the propriety of making the Farmer and Planter the organ of the State Agricultural Society, amounted to *nothing*. Where are those of us that could not attend the late Fair, to look for the instruction we hope to receive from this annual meeting and conference of the brotherhood? Where can I find the reports of competitors, the complimentary notices and suggestions of judging committees? You have offered to publish all these

sort of things gratuitously. Will you be permitted to do so?

As I conceive what the agriculture of South Carolina needs, above all things, is, a general system of management that will not only prevent the further deterioration of the fertility of the soil, but gradually increase its fertility at the same time that the farmer or planter must live, and, if possible, lay up something for the "cold rainy day," also. This is the very first great object of our association. If it cannot be obtained, the sooner we all emigrate to a fresh country and begin anew, the better. Hence, the great importance of the reports from the competitors for the premiums offered for the largest production of any given measure of land. How did Dr. Parker produce that large crop of corn this year or last? What sort of land did he cultivate? What sort of manure did he use, and how? What was the expense of manure and cultivation, and what was the permanent increase of the value of the land? When these questions are fully answered, sensible men will be able to understand whether Dr. Parker is benefitting the agriculture of the State or not. If these questions are not answered, who can tell how his taking premiums is benefitting the State. It may be, for all I know, that his experiments are about as profitable as the man that fed away three hundred pounds of sugar, worth ten cents per pound, and produced two hundred weight of pork, worth five cents per pound. If competitors are to keep their own secrets, how much will our people improve in agricultural knowledge, by the action of our Society touching these points.

I beg here to be distinctly understood as having no sort of unkind feelings for Dr. Parker. I have used his name in illustration, simply because I know him to have been one of the most successful competitors, and that he is fully able to make the most instructive and satisfactory reports. If he has done so (and I do not know he has not), I now insist that the Executive Committee let us have them in some form.— And I know no cheaper way than to send them to you to be published gratuitously in the "Farmer and Planter."

Again, I see Dr. Parker has taken the premium for the largest production of oats on an acre. How much did he make, and how was it accomplished? Rumor says, in part, by irrigation. This only increases my desire to know more about it. I have some branches I could turn on a part of the field, but have been afraid to do so. Did the Dr. irrigate with simple water, or was it liquid manure? The premium

list should make a difference between irrigated crops and those that were not, and between up-land and bottom-land, for there is no justice or equality between these different classes.

The foregoing remarks apply with full force in every respect, to Mr. McAfee's fifty acres of Indian corn, and to Col. Marshall's two wheat crops, and to Rev. Mr. Boyce's wheat crop.— No doubt all those gentlemen can, with perfect ease to themselves, afford our people instructive reports. The principal means of maintaining and increasing the fertility of the soil, is, in the nature of things, the raising of domestic animals. So that raising and keeping horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, &c., is not only important on account of the direct use we make of them, but indirectly, on account of the manure they afford. Hence, we need to know how to keep the largest amount of animals at the largest profit. This cannot be ascertained to the highest perfection by merely looking at animals, But we want to know what food suits them best; what breeds, on particular circumstances, are best suited to, &c., &c. Amongst the various competitors for the premiums for horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, &c., I recognize numerous names of gentlemen that I know to be intelligent, experienced, and in every way capable and qualified to teach such men as me, what we have great need to know. For example, Col. Williams, of Laurens, could tell us all the peculiar advantages and objections to blood horses and Canadian, as compared with each other, and the same respecting Durham, Devon, or native cattle; for I know he has tried them all, and he is a man of observation and reflection. Dr. Parker could instruct us regarding the profitable milking qualities of Durhams, Devons, BRAHMINs, Pinewoods, and possibly Ayershire cows. He also could tell us from his own experience respecting the intrinsic values of various breeds of hogs.

My letter is getting too long, and I must close. Permit me to say that, I feel the need of instruction, and would have the action of our Society so directed as to afford it. I have no right or power to command the Executive Committee or the Judging Committees, and would refuse were it offered me. My heart-felt and head-felt interest in the greatest attainable usefulness of our Society, is the only apology I have to offer you or your readers for troubling them with this or any of my previous communications.

RIGMAROLE.

Nov. 15th, 1857.

Reigning lusts break through the strongest bonds.

## THE FARMER AND PLANTER.

For the Farmer and Planter.

### Second Scribble.

MR. EDITOR:—My theme is the hog. Condensation is fit in contributions for farming and planting journals. *“Verbum sat!”* Thirty years ago forests and swamps afforded plentiful and proper food for swine. To keep swine gentle and in certain limits, corn was occasionally given to them. Nut trees were used in timber—the clearing up of bottom lands swept white oaks and cane roots—post oak barrens yielded their trees to the axe to furnish the best cotton fields. (Post oak barrens, thirty years ago, were neglected as worthless.) At date above, hogs in range attained full size and muscular development—now they are dwarfish. This is occasioned, partly, by scantiness of nutritious food. As forest lands are cut down, less rain falls in summer months.—The soils of woodland and swamps, of late, are comparatively very dry; hence, swine get their food mainly from enclosed pastures, grazing on waste grounds, and from the *corn crib*. When the dew is upon the grasses, they are acceptable food for hogs and the grazing brutes. From light until ten o'clock in the morning, and from four until dark in evening, are daily the times for grazing. Hence, swine should be fed once daily, and that after dark; and before daylight they will be started in direction of feeding haunts. If they lie about feeding spot until 8 o'clock in morning, and return before night to be fed, the dewy herbage, in pasture or range, will not be grazed. Vermin check and stay the growth of animals, old or young. Destroy twice a week newly gathered beds—besides, the chief bane to swine is, dust. The accumulating and deepening dust of lanes, roads, localities of feeding, and especially the insidious dust in and about hog beds, should be strictly guarded against. The burning of the beds weekly, or hauling the litter into the barn-yard, effects this. In summer, to avoid dust, feed hogs on margin of running water or ponds, and shift spot every two days. Feed a man well a month and deny him food three days or a week, if he does not die, disease will fasten upon him; and it may take months to become free of it, and still months in succession before average health and robustness returns. This law embraces animals of all sorts. Turn swine into pea fields, with little labor food enough is eaten by each hog—they repair to moist shaded retreats, and lie down until hunger puts in play the machinery of locomotion. The habits necessary to cull de-

tached parcels of daily food in range, are lost, the peas are eat, the swine are driven out in range for days or weeks, the hogs get no food comparatively, they eat mushrooms and other food, poisonous and in a manner worthless; disease follows, they become skeletons, they are decimated, and it costs much to reinstate those that survive. I lose no hogs from dust, nor from changing grounds for feeding swine. When a change is made, feed liberally. Weekly give one hundred head stock hogs half gallon salt, half bushel slaked ashes, and one bushel of meal or bran made into raw mush. The salt will, in this way, not be wasted, from its too much acidity. Intestinal vermin will be kept within proper bounds; besides, there will be generated a *normal appetite* and *digestion*.

Hogs, when slaughtered, should consist one half the number of year olds, and the other half, year and half olds. The two sets of pigs will come respectively about the last spring month and in September or October. The year olds should net average one hundred and seventy-five pounds, and those eighteen months old, two hundred and fifty. To realize those weights, the proper cross is one-fourth Cobbet (black listed Guinea), one-fourth Grrazier, and one-half Woburn or similar mastodon species. Hogs, to do well, must be gradually acclimated. To succeed without loss or expense, they must be sheltered and fed well and regularly. A Kentucky bred stock hog will perish when turned out to shift like our acclimated *razor spines*.

The expense attendant upon rearing hogs profitably for the consumption of my family, whites and negroes, have, for twenty-three years, taxed my patience, reflection and cautious experimenting. In paper which follows, upon swine, I will attempt to present a consistent and practical method, which will show that every planter and farmer of our State can raise his pork entirely, or in part, cheaper than it can be bought of the Kentuckians.

Oct. 22nd, 1857.

J. W. J.

*Cure for Bots in Horses.*—Drew's *Rural Intelligencer* says, an intelligent gentleman of our acquaintance, who has for years been largely concerned in the management of horses, called at the *Rural* office a few weeks ago, to say that he knew by experience, of a remedy for bots in horses, which is sure to expel them from any one of the race afflicted with those dangerous insects. The medicine is nothing more or less than common fish pickle, that from mackerel is perhaps best; one common junk bottle full will generally dislodge the “varmints”

sometimes a second one may be necessary. To use his own words, this is a perfect cure—no mistake. Some persons mistake the bellyache for bots. The latter may be known by the horse drawing down his tail, and giving it a peculiar motion. There is no such appearance in cases of mere bellyache.

Here is an article that should have appeared in the Nov. No., but came too late to hand to take its proper place. It was, by oversight, also crowded out of the Dec. No. Never too late to do good, however, and knowing our old friend is a good judge of a plow, we give it for information to our readers, whishing each one of them had one of them, that he might, on trial, verify the fact.

**“Who accepts the Challenge?”**

MR. EDITOR:—“An Ex-Editor,” at the close of an article on “*A Good Plow*,” 245, 246 pages, uses the above language. He says, “Let us see a grand plow show at our next Fair. We will hold the stilets of Anderson’s Scotch plow against any plow maker of the South. Who accepts the challenge?”

Allow me to say, from away out West, within 11 or 12 miles of the Mississippi River, that I will meet the Anderson plow, or any other, with a Southern made plow, at Montgomery at the Alabama Fair—God willing. I will be able, I think, to have there a plow made by T. E. C. Brinley, of Simpsonville, Ky., and being desirous to see a better, or to put my friends—every body—in the way of getting the best, I will be at the expense. I never saw B. have only the same interest that every spirited planter should have. I received a letter yesterday from Mr. Brinley, saying he had shipped me some of his plows, just as made to sell to any one. Unless the river is too low, or some disaster, they will be on hand.

As to plows, I have tested every plow that I could get—sent off North and East, and paying for a number; but to this writing, for strength, wear, lightness of draft, ease of guiding, and beauty of work, the Brinley plow stands like my friend Jeff. Davis, first among his equals. If my friend Col. S. will come over to Montgomery, I hope to give him a right that will gratify.

I have used the Brinley plow 3 years, worked on in my own shop, layering and sharpening several times, and will let it stand upon its merits.

Yours, truly,

M. W. PHILLIPS.

Edwards, Miss., Oct. 19th, 1857.

**The Hog Cholera.—A new Theory.**—Dr. Dougherty, of Paris, Ky., who has lately dissected a hog that died of what is termed “hog cholera,” thus writes to another physician: . . . . .

“Upon examination, I found the brain, spinal

marrow, lungs, liver, heart, stomach, the large and part of the small bowel without disease. But that portion of the small bowel next the stomach was literally filled with worms to the extent of several feet, and was in a high state of inflammation. The worm was from two to five inches in length, resembling in appearance the ascaris of the human stomach, but harder, more active, and apparently more tenacious of life. So closely were they crowded in the bowels that their form could be distinctly traced through its coats.

“The disease, then, of which the hog dies, is inflammation of a portion of the small bowel, caused by this hard, active worm, and producing the symptoms noticed in its course, viz.:—drooping, indisposition to eat, diarrhoea, and finally, convulsions and death. The treatment, it seem to me, must be altogether preventive:—I do not believe the worms could be dislodged by any treatment after inflammation is set up; but before this, while the hog is apparently well, able to eat and drink, I have no doubt that they may be destroyed or removed in many instances, by judicious management.”

The Doctor thinks the disease “incommunicable,” and the best remedy is some medicine to dislodge the worms in their course of development.—*Northwestern Farmer*.

For the Farmer and Planter.  
**Plan for a beautiful Hen House.**

MR. EDITOR:—Supposing that the lady portion of your readers, especially those whose husbands leave to their “*better halves*,” the entire business of looking after the *poultry*, without in the least aiding them in providing quarters suited to their protection from the chilling frosts of winter, the hooting, *carnivorous* owls, and other “varments,” that like to partake of their delicious meats, as well as the light-fingered “darkies,” who never fail to find dishonest white customers in the neighborhood, ready to purchase under their true value, all the hens and chickens that these gentry can gather from their exposed roosts. Supposing that such ladies, as well as such others who are more fortunate in having husbands always ready to aid them in any needful improvement, will be pleased with the plan of a very pretty hen house, one that combines economy with utility and beauty, I am induced to furnish it for their benefit, and the benefit of your readers generally. Here it is, so simple in its structure that any plantation carpenter can put it together:

Size 15 $\times$ 15 feet. Specifications—4 corner posts, 6 $\times$ 6 inches, let 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet in the ground, and extending 10 feet, 3 inches above; 4 plates, 5 $\times$ 5 inches, placed on top of posts; 8 ties 3 $\times$ 4 inches; let in posts 4 and 8 feet from top; 4 rafters, 3 $\times$ 4, 15 ft. long, a cutting against a centre piece, 5 $\times$ 5 inches, and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet

long. This piece should be sloped, 12 or 15 inches to a point, and extend that much above the roof, or as may suit the fancy of the builder. There should be 3 short rafters put in on each side, when it will be ready for lathing, which is to serve for a roof.

After planking all around at the ground, 15 inches high, then lattice, with lathes  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, by  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch thick, leaving spaces of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The slope of the lathes should be 7 base, to 9 perpendicular. And the lathing of the roof should run parallel with the long rafters, and cross each other like those of the sides. The corners, as well as the rafters, after the lathing is all put on, should be capped with stiles  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches by  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch; and the roofing lathes should be cut off at their first crossing below the plates, so as to make a pretty finish.

The roosts should be of rods, one-half an inch in diameter, 2 feet apart, and commencing near the door, rise with an angle about  $45^{\circ}$ .

The nests should be in boxes sufficiently elevated to be above the reach of dogs. The side plank should be nailed to those of the top and bottom, so that the rain water that may fall on the top will have to pass down through the seams or cracks. It is very important that the nests and every part of the building should get wet when it rains, to destroy the vermin that would otherwise accumulate. If this precaution should not keep the nests free, as may be the case in long dry spells, they should be taken down, the old straw removed, the boxes scalded, and fresh straw put in them.

The material of the house should be left rough, so as to hold the white wash, which should be put on every spring or summer. Do all this, and get good breeds, and feed well, and you may have plenty of eggs and healthy chickens the year round.

P. Q.

Pomaria, near Leesville P. O., Lexington Dist., S. C.

We received the following communication from our old friend and correspondent, too late for our Nov. No., when it should have appeared, and, unaccountably, was passed over in making up our December No. We give it now, however, and hope the writer will excuse our short comings.—ED.

#### Premium List of the S. C. Agricultural Society.

MR. EDITOR:—Sitting by the fire this morn, looking over the premium list of the State Society, my attention is drawn to the great disparity of premiums, and showing the impor-

tance and non-importance of the various articles in estimation of the people.

It is said of John Randolph, of Roanoke, that he had declared he would go out of his way to kick a sheep. The Jews are said to detest swine and their flesh. Now it seemeth that in Carolina sheep are much more appreciated than hogs. First, a premium of \$30 is offered under head of cotton bales, for best wool —then a premium of \$20 for the best Merino wool, and \$20 dollars each, for the next best 5 classes; then \$20 each, for best buck and ewes of each of the 6 classes. If I can figure, *two hundred and seventy dollars offered for sheep.*

Now, for hogs, \$60 is the sum total, with a \$5 premium for leaf lard, \$5 for best ham, and I believe that is all.

Now, dear Major, I do earnestly remonstrate against so much favoritism. The hog is worth to the South and the West and the Southwest, far more than sheep, will cost less to the value, can be bred more rapidly, and if any one thing for an interest should be brought forward, it is hogs.

Bless my life, Chinese Sugar Cane comes in for a \$75 dollar notice. I beg the Chinese Prolific Pea will also be brought in next year. Will the Sorgho hay be better than from the Egyptian millet? As good? Public men must bear with us, if we do occasionally suggest our ideas of improvements, for we, as people, must be allowed so to do. Yours, fraternally,

Oct. 23, 1857.

So. WEST.

P. S. Over \$100 for Brahmins—does any body know they are fit for meat or milk?

S. W.

From the Unionville Journal.

#### Union District Agricultural Society—Report of the Committee on Reclaiming Exhausted Soils.

The subject of reclaiming our exhausted soils is not only one of interest to the planter, but as a question of political economy should interest every true citizen. The importance of the subject being self-evident, your committee will proceed to suggest the best mode practicable known to them, to accomplish this desirable object. The first effort necessary to success, is to prevent the soil from washing away by rains. This can only be done by hill-side ditches and deep and horizontal plowing—the hill-side ditches to be properly constructed. Your committee will commend as the result of their experience and as a general rule, that these ditches be large, and have an inclination or fall of three inches to twelve feet, to be regulated by steepness of hill-side, length of ditches &c., and the rows between the ditches to be as nearly level or horizontal as it is possible to get them. When hill-side ditches

were first introduced into our section of the district, the rule was to have the ditches small and shallow and the rows between the ditches to have a fall sufficient for each row to carry its own water, and to empty into the ditch. This rule worked badly, as a little reflection will demonstrate; each row, during a hard rain, carried not only its own water, but its own soil also, and the soil and water was carried by the ditch out of the field. The result was speedy exhaustion. The plantation of the writer of this report has been injured more by injudicious hill-side ditching than by all other means. The second step in the progress of reclaiming our exhausted soils is by deep plowing. By deep plowing we bring to the surface and expose to the action of the atmosphere, the subsoil, which possesses alone but few elements of fertility, but when brought in contact with the atmosphere absorbs therefrom more of these elements and becomes improved. By deep plowing you create a reservoir in which you collect all the elements of fertility and prepare your soil for the third step in the progress of improvement, namely, manures; under which head we include rain, dew, the atmosphere, light, heat, and electricity. These nature supplies; and when nature is assisted by a judicious application of putrescent manures, the improvement is unquestionable. But the great difficulty is, to bring our people to the adoption of any system which works a change in the old scouring system of their fathers, notwithstanding it must be obvious to the least observant among them that they must improve their lands, emigrate, or starve if they pursue this system much longer. Your committee are of the opinion that the most honorable of the above alternatives, is to improve your lands, and thus add to the permanent wealth of the State, and leave to those who are to come after you, an inheritance not only worthy of their acceptance, but such as will induce them to remain here, and further add to the population and wealth of their native State. Your committee have no experience in the use of any of the subsoil plows—they prefer trench plowing to any other mode. This is done by running two single horse plows, one after the other, in the same furrow—a twister followed by a strait shovel or bull tongue, or where the object is not to turn up the soil, two strait shovels or bull tongues, to follow each other as deeply as one strong mule can pull it. The subject of collecting and composting manures, is one of much importance to every planter in the country; but even upon this subject there is a great diversity of opinion. If the theory of Russin be true, that no soil devoid of calcareous ingredients, can be permanently improved, and the poorest may be made rich by a proper application of lime and putrescent manures, our efforts should be made in the right direction; for a necessary deduction from this theory teaches, that in properly constituted soil, the manure applied thereto, is fixed by calcareous earth, and both the calcareous and vegetable matter chemically combine with the soil, and not subject to waste by the ordinary exposure to the sun when plowed up. But a soil is so

constituted as not to have the power of combining with the vegetable matter mixed with or applied. As these matters are decomposed, they will be lost to the soil." "If these views be correct, the first step to be taken is, to ascertain the fact, whether our soil is deficient in calcareous matter or not; and if not calcareous, to make it so, by application of marl or lime. Your committee are not prepared to pronounce upon the correctness of this theory with any confidence, but observation alone seems to favor it. On our best post-oak and hickory lands, the soil of which is more or less calcareous, you find the vegetable deposit on them soon decompose or rot; but not so on our Spanish-oak ridges, the soil of which is evidently non-calcareous—the leaves may accumulate on these lands for half a century, and will not decompose or rot. Why is this so? Does the theory of Russin explain it? To this enquiry we have no satisfactory answer. But in further confirmation of the above suggestion, we state the fact, that no permanent improvement has ever been effected on these lands by the application of putrescent manures, deep plowing, or any other means known to your committee. They know of no other instance in which lime or marl has been applied. "But independent of calcareous ingredients, all soils possess more or less fertility by virtue of their humus or mould, the production of putrefaction; it is the decomposed organic matter of the soil, and whether we consider it as a simple or compound substance, it is the principle which gives fertility to the soil—it is the end of all compost heaps to produce soluble humus, no matter how compounded our chemists pronounce this substance to be." We should, therefore, after preparing our reservoir by deep ploughing, pour into it from every source we can, this fertilizing principle. The sources are many—from your stables, from your compost heaps, by rest through the action of the atmosphere, by plowing under vegetable matter in the form of green crops, and by a judicious system of rotation of crops. All these means may be used to some extent every year, and each year's practice will suggest some improvement; and improvement after improvement will follow, until a perfect system will be established, the good results of which none of us can foresee. The humus or fertilizing principles of manures, being soluble, the importance of protecting your compost heaps from the leaching effects of rain, must be obvious to all. The manure made in our winter cowpens, by hauling in leaves, straw, &c., being exposed during winter to the leaching effects of every rain that falls, is worth very little when hauled out in the spring. We make it a rule to litter our stables regularly through the fall and winter, but we never clean them out until ready to haul into the field. This manure, in comparison with all others which we have tried, is decidedly the best. We apply all our putrescent manures to our cotton crops.—We have a plow made expressly for the purpose of opening the furrows intended for manure, believing the deeper you put your manure in, the better. This plow was named by an eccentric overseer we once had, "the Fluker,"

It is simply a long strait shovel, with two wings. A very correct idea may be formed of it, by placing the bar or strait edges of two twisted shovels together. These wings catch the broken soil, and turn it on each side of the furrow, leaving a clean open furrow for the manure.—Rest is negatively an improver of soils, by not making a demand upon them through a cultivated crop, which is removed. The volunteer growth is to some extent returned to them by the process of patrification. The rains, dews, and atmosphere action, also have a salutary influence while at rest. The turning under of green crops is also a source of improvement; but the precise time at which this ought to be done, is the question—whether at the blooming stage, the seeding stage, or at the maturity and decaying of the plant. Your committee are not prepared to pronounce decisively on the subject; but are inclined to the opinion that the matured and decaying stage is the proper one. "This is nature's plan; and she is admirably simple, and never so learned as our book," but usually more correct.

"On these points, so exceedingly important to practical agriculture, the chemist cannot reply with certainty, inasmuch as they are not of a kind to be determined by an investigation limited to his study and laboratory. The conclusive decisions on these points must be sought on the land of the planter. The more, therefore, practical men cooperate in these investigations, and test by experiment, the more quickly will their many deficiencies be supplied, the more speedily will theoretical conjectures be converted into practical certainties. Our present knowledge, however, may still be productive of much advantage, more especially when theory deduces its conclusions, not from scientific speculations, but from the practical results of agricultural experience; and in doubtful cases, propounds them simply as 'conjectures,' to be confirmed by experiment.

"How nature proceeds, in order to develop from the three nutrients, carbonic acid, water, and ammonia, with the aid of a few mineral substances, the innumerable proximate constituents of vegetables, is a subject upon which we still know nothing."

*Rotation of Crops.*—The beneficial results of rotation of crops, is based on two assumptions—one is, that all plants draw from the soil, food peculiar to themselves, and by repetition, exhaust the soil of this their peculiar food.—The other is, that all plants secrete by their roots, and the accumulation of this excrement in the soil, becomes hurtful to the plant, throwing it off, but may serve to nourish other and different plants. Without deciding on the foregoing assumptions, your committee will conclude this very imperfect report, by recommending a system of rotations, which they regard as judicious, and which their Chairman can recommend with confidence, he having tested by experience the utility of the system. Every planter should have his farm or plantation divided into four sections. Section No. 1, to be planted in cotton—all the putrescent manures of the farm to be applied to the cotton

crop. Section No. 2, to be planted in corn—Section No. 3, to be sown in wheat and oats; all the cotton seed to be spared, to be applied broadcast to the small grain crop. Section No. 4, at rest. Next year, section No. 1, in cotton again. (The excrementitious portion of two successive cotton crops, make an admirable preparation for a corn crop.) Section No. 2, to be sown in small grain. Section No. 3, at rest. Section No. 4, in corn. Next year, Section No. 1, in corn. Section No. 2, in cotton. After taking off the small grain crop of the previous year, this section should have been drilled in peas, the distance you intended for cotton, at the rates of three pecks to the acre; the pea vines to be listed under in the centre, between each row, early in the fall, and two furrows thrown on them. In February, or as early as practicable, haul and apply all your putrescent manures, plow out and finish your cotton beds, and at the proper season, plant in cotton. Section No. 3, to remain at rest. Section No. 4, to be sown in small grain. Under the above system of rotations, with deep and thorough cultivation, you may expect your lands to improve, if you can keep them from washing away.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. DOUGLASS, Chairman.

From the Cotton Planter and Soil.

#### Covered Drains.

DR. CLOUD.—*Dear Sir:* Your interesting "Planter" for the month of September gives a valuable communication on the subject of covered drains. With every intelligent planter of our State, who for a moment adverts to the quantity of valuable soil in our section of the United States requiring this kind of improvement to bring it into productive usefulness, as also the real value when brought into that state, every judicious article on the subject must be highly interesting.

Having for years back been much impressed with the real value of our wet lands, if rendered fit for productive cultivation, I have had something to do with *draining*, and preferring covered drains as most efficient in the end, not a few experiments have passed through my hands.

The last mode adopted, I have found perfectly successful—within the reach of the man without capital to invest in such improvement—very convenient, and withal I believe promises to be as lasting, and free from causality as any other—eight years have passed without any appearance of failure.

These considerations induce me to tax a corner of your valuable periodical, hoping that if no farther benefit repays the trouble of insertion and loss of room, it may elicit some valuable suggestions from some abler head.

I had, adjacent to my residence, a small piece of ground, say about five acres, of wet, boggy land, among pine hills, such as is found in vast quantities in our pine woods. A stream appearing to be the production of wet weather springs, principally, passed through it—water standing in holes over it for nine months in the

year. The character of the ground will be best understood by giving the fact, that I lost cattle in it, and had horses injured by being bogged:

I first determined to fence it up to save my stock, but on reflection, I come to the conclusion that there was not any land but what could, by a judicious course be drained—and last, if that was effected, with the aid of time, must be productive, valuable and lasting soil. I "beat about" for the best article and most economical, to fill my drains with, and at the same time keep them sufficiently open for the water to secure a sufficient passage, and adopted the following, after repeated trials.

Adopting at once the old adage as a perfect truism, that "whatever is worth doing, is worth doing well," I opened trenches four feet wide at top, three feet at bottom, and four feet deep—commenced hauling fat light-wood logs, and split them into the dimensions of rails, with also large pine-knots, and filled up the ditch two feet deep, taking care upon placing the materials to effect as much compactness as the materials would admit. After completing this strata, I went back and began to caulk up the crevices as tight as small pine-knots and splinters and chips would effect.—This last part of the process I pointedly attended to myself, not contented with simply telling Tom to do it.

Not far from the place there resided one of those planters who never found out the value of *shucks*, and consequently, annually threw into piles large quantities to rot—a sight that may be seen at many of our river plantations without going one hundred miles. The freshest of these shucks I hauled and placed on the pine rail work of my ditch, covering the *caulking* about twelve inches after being well tramped down, and on this layer a shallow one of pine shatters, filling up about nine inches, with the mud, covering a little higher than the adjoining soil.

My reason for employing the shucks thus, was that I had some years before been present at the taking down of an old *mill dam* in which this material had been used to prevent the water from finding its way through the wood work, and they were almost *cemented* together, and *sound* after a long period of years.

It is unnecessary to remark that in plowing this ground the driver is *made* to recollect the *ditch*, which is readily done by the pine-wood, fat stakes, that direct him—he consequently plows shallow. I done the whole within myself, and when I could well spare the time.—The *mouth* of the drain was well spiled.

#### PROGRESS.

*South, Alabama, Sept. 4th 1857.*

Analysis proves that beans abound with a greater quantity of the constituents of wool than any other vegetable. Sheep eat them with avidity, and they are superior to any kind of grain for advancing the growth of wool.

"He who takes conscience for his guide, will not easily lose his way.

#### List of Premiums Awarded AT THE SECOND ANNUAL FAIR OF THE

State Agricultural Society of S. C.

NOVEMBER, 1857.

#### HEAVY DRAFT HORSES.

Best heavy draft Stallion, R. H. Means, Fairfield.

Second best heavy draft Stallion, Mr. Bisset.  
Best three year old heavy draft Stallion, Col.

A. G. Sumner.

Best two year old Stallion, W. B. Dorn, Edgefield.

Best brood Mare and Colt, J. D. Trezevant, Richland.

Second best brood Mare and Colt, J. M. Jones, Greenville.

Best brood Mare, A. B. Springs, York.

Second best brood Mare, R. Bellinger, Spartanburg.

Best 3 year old Filly, R. Bellinger, Spartanburg.

Second best 3 year old Filly, J. D. Williams, Laurens.

Best 2 year old Filly, Dr. S. Marshall, Abbeville.

Second best 2 year old Filly, J. Watson.

Best 1 year old Filly, Maj. J. A. Eichelberger, Laurens.

Best 3 year old Gelding, Mr. Elkin, Fairfield.

#### SECOND CLASS—BLOOD HORSES.

Best 4 year old thorough-bred Stallion, N. Pope, Columbia.

Second best 4 year old thorough-bred Stallion, Mr. Bisset.

Best 3 year old thorough-bred Colt, W. Rice.

Best 2 year old thorough-bred Stallion, Col. J. B. Moore, Sumter.

Best 1 year old thorough-bred Stallion, Dr. Jesse Lamb.

Best thorough-bred Mare, W. Floyd, Newberry.

Second best thorough-bred Mare, A. P. Calhoun, Pendleton.

Best 3 year old blooded Filly, W. E. Hardy, Newberry.

Second best 3 year old thorough-bred Filly, T. J. Sloan, Pickens.

Best 2 year old thorough-bred Filly, (Brown,) W. Floyd, Newberry.

Second best 2 year old thorough-bred Filly, W. Floyd, Newberry.

Best Stallion Pony, J. W. Shaw, Fairfield.

Best Mare Pony, Col. A. R. Taylor, Columbia.

Best pair of Matched Horses, raised in South Carolina, R. Bellinger, Spartanburg.

Best harness Horse, raised in South Carolina, W. Williams, Laurens.

Best native saddle Horse, Mr. Guignard, Columbia.

Best pair of matched Horses, open to the world, Col. Ware, Greenville.

Best South Carolina raised heavy draft Gelding, H. Gary, Newberry.

Best single harness Horse, open to the world, Col. Ware, Greenville.

Best saddle Horse, open to the world, Col. R. Beatty, Union.

#### JACKS, JENNETS AND MULES.

Best Imported Jack, Col. T. Davis.

Second best Imported Jack, Jos. Davis.

Best South Carolina raised Jack, Col. R. Beatty.

Second best South Carolina raised Jack, Jesse G. Lykes.

Best Imported Jennet, Col. T. Davis.

Second best Imported Jennet, Col. T. Davis.

Best South Carolina raised Jennet, B. F. Kilgore.

Second best South Carolina raised Jennet, J. J. Kinsler.

Best single Harness Mule, Dennis Lark.

Best 2 year old Mule, J. A. Egleberger.

Best 1 year old Mule, R. S. Griffin.

#### CATTLE.

Best Devon Bull, 3 years old, John D. Williams, Laurens.

Second best Bull, 3 years old, W. A. Williams, Abbeville.

Best Devon Bull, 2 years old, A. B. Springs, York.

Second best Bull 2 years old, A. P. Calhoun, Pendleton.

Best Devon Bull, 1 year old, Dr. John A. Meetze, Laurens.

Second best Bull, 1 year old J. T. Latta, Pendleton.

Best Devon Bull Calf, George H. Waring, Clarksville, Ga.

Best Devon Cow, 3 years old, John D. Williams, Laurens.

Second best Cow, 3 years old, W. A. Williams, Abbeville.

Best and second best Devon Cow, 2 years old, George H. Waring, Clarksville, Ga.

Best Devon Heifer, 1 year old, Dr. John A. Meetze, Laurens.

Best Devon Heifer Calf, George H. Waring, Clarksville, Georgia.

Best Durham Bull, 3 years old, John R. Tarrants, Abbeville.

Best Durham Bull, 2 years old, John S. Davidson, Meeklenburg, N. C.

Best and second best Durham Bull, 1 year old, John D. Williams, Laurens.

Best Durham Cow, 3 years old, A. B. Springs, York.

Second best Cow, 3 years old, Robt. Beatty, Union.

Best Durham Cow, 2 years old, J. W. Parker, Columbia.

Second best Cow, 2 years old, John D. Williams, Laurens.

Best Durham Heifer, 1 year old, John S. Davidson, N. C.

Second best Heifer, 1 year old, John D. Williams, Laurens.

Best Brahmin Bull, 3 years old, James B. Davis, Fairfield.

Second best Bull, 3 years old, Col. Thomas Davis, Richland.

Best Imported Brahmin Bull, 2 years old, Col. Frank Hampton, Columbia.

Best and second best Brahmin Bull, 1 year old, J. W. Parker, Columbia.

Best Brahmin Cow, 3 years old, James B. Davis, Fairfield.

Second best Cow, 3 years old, Thomas Davis, Richland.

Best Brahmin Cow, 2 years old, W. S. Goodwin, Columbia.

Best Brahmin Heifer, 1 year old, Thomas Davis, Richland.

Best Brahmin Heifer Calf, Thomas Davis, Richland.

Best Grade Bull, 3 years old, Thomas Davis, Richland.

Second best Bull, Thomas Taylor, Richland.

Best Grade Bull, 2 years old, Mrs. Deveaux St. Matthews.

Second best Bull, Thomas Taylor, Richland.

Best Grade Bull, 1 year old, Robert Beatty, Union.

Second best Bull, T. J. Robinson, Richland.

Best Grade Bull Calf, J. W. Parker, Columbia.

Best Grade Cow, 3 years old, T. J. Robinson, Richland.

Second best Cow, J. W. Parker Columbia.

Best Grade Heifer, 1 year old, J. W. Parker.

Best Yoke Working Oxen, John T. Shuler, Lexington

#### SWINE.

Best Suffolk Boar and Sow, J. D. Williams.

Best Essex Boar, Grade Boar, Litchfield Sow, Berkshire Sow and Grade Pigs, J. W. Parker, Columbia.

Best Chester County Boar and Sow, Col. A. P. Calhoun, Pendleton.

Mr. Hull, the efficient Superintendent of the Cattle, during their stay on the Fair grounds, was awarded a Premium by the Society.

#### SHEEP AND GOATS.

Best French Merino Ram, John D. Williams, Laurens.

Best South Down Buck, W. A. Williams, Abbeville.

Best Cotswold, 3 years old and upwards, Dr. A. C. Fuller, Laurens.

Best Broad Tailed Buck and Pen of Ewes, J. D. Trezevant, Zante.

Best Native Buck, 3 years old, Pen Ewes and Lambs, Col. Thos. Taylor, Richland.

#### POULTRY.

Best pair Barn-yard Fowls, Wm. Summer.

Best pair Game Fowls, E. J. Percival.

Best pair Eastern Fowls, Mrs. J. P. Thomas.

Best pair Bantams, M. Ehrlich.

Best pair Domestic Turkeys, Mrs. M. S. Monteith.

Best pair Bremen Geese, Dr. J. W. Parker.

Best pair Hong Kong Geese, Mrs. Dr. Roach.

Best pair Muscovy Ducks, Dr. J. W. Parker.

Best pair Aylesbury Ducks, Wm. Summer.

Best pair Java Ducks, Wm. Summer.

Best pair Poland Ducks, Mrs. J. Waties.

#### MACHINERY.

Best Wood Lathe, Glaze & Smith, Columbia, S. C.

Best Grist Mill, James McCleight, Winsboro, S. C.

Best Cotton Gin, Jno. Simpson, Chester.  
Best Sugar Mill, Wm. Glaze, Columbia.

**SOUTHERN FARMING IMPLEMENTS.**  
Best Cast Mould Board 1 and 2 horse Plow, Boydton & Son.

Best Wrought Iron Board 1 horse Plow, W. Glaze.

Best Wrought Iron Board 2 horse Plow, S. R. Milton.

Best Wrought Iron Board Subsoil Plow, Boydton & Son.

Best Wrought Iron Board Cotton Scraper, Thos. Carter.

Best Wrought Iron Board Sweep, G. W. Cooper, Georgia.

Turning Plow on Rooter Stock, W. H. D. Gaillard, Pendleton.

Best 1 and 2 Horse Turning Plow, S. C. made, E. E. Smith.

Best Cotton Scraper, S. C. made, Thomas Carter.

Best Subsoil Plow, S. C. made, W. H. D. Gaillard.

Best Carolina Seed Planter, Thos. Carter.

Best S. C. made Fan, Enright & Star, Abbeville.

**SOUTH CAROLINA MANUFACTURES OTHER THAN DOMESTIC.**

Best bolt Osnaburgs and bale Cotton Yarns, J. G. Gibbes & Co., Columbia.

Best piecee Cotton Bagging, J. S. & A. Hill, Spartanburg.

Best specimen Plow Lines, J. S. & A. Hill, Spartanburg.

Best speeimen Cotton Rope, Lester & Sons, Greenville.

Best bolt Linseys, Williams & Feaster, Greenville.

Best dozen Gents and Negro Hats, Joseph Morley.

Best bundle Printing Paper, P. S. Fowler & Co., Greenville.

Best specimen Book Paper, P. S. Fowler & Co., Greenville, S. C.

Best specimen Book Binding, E. R. Stokes, Columbia.

#### FIELD CROPS.

Best bale Sea Island Cotton, Hon. J. Townsend, Edisto Island.

Second best bale Sea Island Cotton, Hon. J. Townsend, Edisto Island.

Best bale Upland Cotton, D. J. Hayne, St. Mathew's Parish.

Second best bale Upland Cotton, Dr. M. M. Hunter, Laurens.

Best bale Wool, O. M. Dantzler, St. Mathews.

Second best bale Wool, O. M. Dantzler, St. Mathews.

Largest crop of Corn upon 50 acres, J. T. M. McAfee.

Largest crop on 2 acres, Dr. J. W. Parker.

Largest crop on 1 acre, Dr. J. W. Parker.

Largest crop of Oats on 1 acre, Dr. J. W. Parker.

Largest crop of Wheat on 50 acres, Col. J. F. Marshall.

Largest on 2 acres, Col. J. F. Marshall.

Largest crop on 1 acre, Rev. J. P. Boyce.

Best bushel of Oats, G. McCants. (Variety black).

Best bushel Barley, Dr. J. W. Parker.

Best bushel Rye, J. Watts. (Variety California).

Best bushel of Wheat, G. A. Monteith. (Variety Mogul).

Best bushel of Corn, Mrs. Deveaux.

Best bushel of Upland Rice, J. Nunamaker.

Best bushel of Irish Potatoes, Mrs. R. C. Gilham.

Best variety of Sweet Potatoes, Mrs. S. P. Gibbes. (Yams).

Largest crop of native Grass, (Hay) Capt. Frank Hampton.

Largest yield of Syrup from Sorgho Sucie, on 1 acre, H. C. Davis.

#### ARBORICULTURE, FLORICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE.

Best collection Green House Plants, John S. Preston, Columbia.

Largest collection Flowers, John S. Preston, Columbia.

Best and largest variety Garden Vegetables, Mrs. S. P. Gibbes, Columbia.

Best and largest collection Garden Seeds, Mrs. R. C. Gilham.

#### ORCHARD AND NURSERY.

Best late Pears, R. H. Mayrant, Columbia.

Best 100 Oranges, Mrs. R. J. Mays, Fla.

Best lot Trees, Stafford and Hutton, N. C.

Best lot Grapes and Apples, P. W. Landrum, Richland.

Largest collection Apples, E. M. Carpenter, Rutherford, N. C.

Best large Seedling Late Apple, Mrs. J. Epting, Pomaria.

Best Late Peaches, George Hall, Columbia.

#### MANUFACTURERS OF WOOD, IRON AND LEATHER.

Best Sideboard, M. H. Berry, Columbia.

Best Bureau, John Krouse.

Best pair Blinds and Sash, C. Beck, Columbia.

Best Panel Door, Wm. Glaze, Columbia.

Best Double-barrelled Gun, P. W. Kraft, Columbia.

Family Carriage, P. F. Frazee, Columbia.

Open Buggy, work of a slave, R. P. Mayrant, Columbia.

Best Open Buggy, Brennen & Carrol, Columbia.

Best and largest exhibition Iron Castings, J. Alexaner & Co., Columbia.

Best Carriage Harness, Double Buggy Harness and Single Buggy Harness, Hopson & Sutphen, Columbia.

Best Gent's Saddle, Col. J. Norton.

Best Ladies' Saddle, Thos. Beggs, Columbia.

Best dozen Brogans, F. Lynch.

Best pair Boots, John Oliver, Columbia.

Best Gent's Shoes, H. P. Dougal, Columbia.

Best Ladies' Shoes, G. M. Thompson & Co., Columbia.

Largest collection Southern Leather, Sam VanWyek.

Best Side Upper, Sole and Harness Leather, J. Bierfield.

Best Calf Skins, Wm. Van Wyck.  
Best Oil Dressed Whang Leather, J. Bierfield.

## SCULPTURE AND PAINTING.

Best copy of Animal Painting in Oil, Mrs. W. K. Backman.

Best Drawing in Crayon, Miss Gibbes.

Best Photographs in Oil and on Paper, Messrs. Kingsnire & Wearn.

Best Fancy Painting, (Pastel) Miss B. Sims.  
Best Slate Mantels, A. Palmer, Columbia.

## HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT.

Best Muscadine Wine, Mrs. Simeon Fair, Newberry, S. C.

Best Seuppernoug Wine, Dr. Robert Harlee, Marion, S. C.

Best Hams, Mrs. R. J. Gage.

Second best Hams, Mrs. B. R. Cockrel.

Best Flour, J. W. Folk.

Second best Flour, W. T. Mead.

Best Bread, Mrs. Nancy Watt.

Second best Bread, J. C. Janney.

Best Butter, Mrs. R. C. Gillam.

Second best Butter, R. A. Griffin.

Best Lard, Mrs. R. C. Gillam.

Best Domestic and Toilet Soap, Miss Mary Houseal.

Best Dried Apples, Mrs. Louisa C. W. Logan.

Best Dried Peaches, Mrs. S. P. Gibbes.

Best Plums, Miss Mary Houseal.

Best Tomato Catsup, Miss Rebecca Watt.

Best Green Pickles, Mrs. R. W. Gibbes.

Best Yellow Pickles, Mrs. McGregor.

Best Plum Cordial, Mrs. R. W. Gibbes.

Best Ratifica Cordial, Mrs. M. A. Shelton.

Best Blaekberry Jelly, Miss Rebecca Watt.

Best Plum Jelly, Miss J. L. Jones.

Best Apple Jelly, Miss F. E. Calhoun.

Best Preserved Nectarines, Mrs. F. H. Mayrant.

Best Preserved Melons, Miss Rebecca Watt.

Best Preserved Pears, Mrs. F. H. Mayrant.

Best Figs, Mrs. H. C. Bronson.

Best Brandy Peaches and Pumpkin Chips, Mrs. S. P. Gibbes.

Best Gherken Preserves, Mrs. F. H. Mayrant.

Best Citron Preserves, Mrs. S. P. Gibbes.

Best Crystallized Fruuit, Mrs. R. W. Gibbes.

Best Chinese Sugar Cane Syrup, R. J. Gage.

Best Pickled Capers, R. Chisolm.

Tomato Paste, Mrs. John B. Moore.

Best Preserved Figs, P. W. Landrum.

Best South Carolina made Cheese, Mrs. C. D. Bobo, Union.

Second best South Carolina made Cheese, Mrs. E. M. Bobo, Laurens.

## NEEDLE, SHELL AND FANCY WORK.

Best French needle worked Collar, Miss Sarah Gracser, Charleston.

Best Under-sleeves, French needle work, Miss Caroline E. Percival, Columbia.

Best needle worked Counterpane, Mrs. Sarah E. Chick, Newberry.

Edging on Fringe, Miss M. McFall, Pickens.

Best Collar, American needle work, Miss C. Williams, Society Hill.

Best Under-sleeves, American worked, Miss R. McFall, Pickens.

Best inside Handkerchief, French worked, Mrs. Dr. Caughman, Lexington.

Best Child's Dress, French needle worked, Miss C. E. Service, Georgetown.

Child's Dress, Mrs. Eliza Kirk, Columbia.

Best Shirt Bosom, Mrs. M. E. Brady, Columbia.

Best embroidered Cady's Skirt, Miss E. C. McCall, Fairfield.

Best Inside Handkerchief, American needle worked, Miss Margaret McFall, Pickens.

Best Undersleeves, netting, Mrs. J. H. Baskin, Abbeville.

Best American needle worked Collar, Miss Sarah J. Rader, Chester.

Best worked Collar, Mrs. Gen. Kinard, Newberry.

Best Morning Cap, net, Miss R. McFall, Pickens.

Best worked Pantalettes, Mrs. Louisa C. Logan, Abbeville.

Best Lady's Skirt, Mrs. A. H. Sims, Abbeville.

Best Worked Child's Dress, French, Mrs. G. M. Chaplin, Newberry.

Best Ameriean worked Child's Dress, Miss C. McFall, Anderson.

Best needle worked Baby Dress, Miss C. H. Sharp, Richland.

Best embroidered Child's Dress, Miss A. B. Springs, York.

Best American worked Child's Dress, Mrs. Charles Kirk, Columbia.

Best French worked Under-sleeves, Miss Carolina E. Service, Georgetown.

Best Shirt Bosom, American needle-worked, Mrs. R. Miller, Winsboro.

## PATCH WORK IN SILK OR COTTON.

Best Patch-work Quilt in Cotton, Mrs. Sallie K. Wells, Columbia.

Second best Patch-work Quilt in Cotton, Miss A. G. Adams.

Best Patch-work Quilt in Silk, Mrs. P. W. Chick, Newberry.

Second best Patch-work Quilt in Silk, Mrs. R. W. Gibbes, Columbia.

Best Imitation Marseilles Quilt, Mrs. Mary Chappel.

Best Raised Quilt, Mrs. G. McCants, Fairfield.

Best Woven Counterpane, Mrs. Dr. Marshall, Abbeville.

## RAISED, WORSTED AND FRAMED TAPESTRY WORK.

Best Picture in Tapestry, Miss F. Levy, Columbia.

Second best Picture in Tapestry, Mrs. Dr. G. McCants, Fairfield.

Best Table Cover, raised work, Mrs. Mary E. Brady, Columbia.

Best Chair Cover, Miss E. Ray, Columbia.

Best Ottoman Cover, Miss S. Lyles, Fairfield.

Best Footstool Covers, Miss S. R. Dawkins, Union.

Best Hearth Rug, Mrs. M. E. Brady, Columbia.

Best Fire Screens, Miss C. E. Percival, Columbia.

Best Lamp or Vase Mats, Miss M. Holman Newberry.  
Best Bell Pull, Miss E. F. Hardy, Newberry.  
Best Piano Stool, Mrs. A. Holmberg, Columbia.

#### SOUTHERN DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

Best pair Woollen Blankets, Mrs. J. H. Baskin, Abbeville.  
Second best pair Woollen Blankets, Mrs. H. E. Sondley, Columbia.  
Best 10 yards Jeans, Miss E. B. Rankin, Anderson.  
Second best 10 yards Jeans, Miss C. L. Stack, Richland.  
Best Pantaloons Pattern, (swan skin) Miss E. Roberts, Orangeburg.  
Best Wool Coverlet, Miss M. Hill, Spartanburg.  
Best Wool Carpet, Mrs. B. Lewis, Georgia.  
Best Cotton Coverlet, Mrs. J. H. Baskin, Abbeville.  
Best pair Woollen Socks, Mrs. O. Woodward, Winsboro.  
Best pair Cotton Socks, Mrs. M. McKinstry, Fairfield.  
Best Cotton Diaper Table Cloth, Mrs. J. H. Baskin, Abbeville.  
Best pound Cotton Thread, Mrs. M. Lester, Greenville.  
Best 10 yards Twilling, Mrs. J. N. Miller, Abbeville.  
Palmetto Hat, Miss Recse, Anderson.

#### DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES IN SILK.

Best specimen Sewing Silk, Miss S. Summer, Newberry.  
Best specimens Reeled Silk and Cocoons, Mrs. Dr. Caughman, Lexington.  
Best Silk Handkerchief, and Silk and Wool Cloth, Mrs. J. C. Reid, Pickens.  
Best Silk Vest Pattern, Mrs. J. H. Baskin, Abbeville.  
Best Silk Half Hose, Mrs. J. T. Broyles, Williamston.  
Silk Plush Bonnet, Mrs. J. H. Baskin, Abbeville.

#### MISCELLANEOUS AND FANCY WORK.

Imitation Ermine Collar and Cuffs, Miss Isabel Martin, Columbia.  
Fancy Peacock, made by slave, R. S. Bedon, Columbia.  
2 pieces Fancy Bead Work, Mrs. Mayrant, Columbia.  
Leather Work Table, Miss Mary Elmore, Columbia.  
Fans, Mrs. Catharine Counts, Lexington.  
One Fancy Top Not in Leather, Mrs. John McCully, Columbia.  
Basket made of the Palmetto, Mrs. S. Waring, Columbia.  
Vase Rosin and Wax Fruit, Mrs. M. A. Thorn, Columbia.  
Show Box Dry Goods, J. C. Green, Columbia.  
Model New State Capitol, John H. Heise, Columbia.  
Fancy Table, Miss Sallie Roper, Columbia.

Mantilla of Guinea Feathers, Mrs. Simeon Fair, Newberry.

Hair Wreath, Miss Hutchinson, Columbia.  
Needle Cases, Mrs. M. Kines, Columbia.  
Goat Skin Vest, Mrs. A. S. Williamson, Fairfield.

Buckskin Gloves, Mrs. Mary Cox, Pickens.  
Kaoline Pitcher, Col. J. J. Gregg, Edgefield.  
Cuff's Turkey's Down, G. H. Waring, Georgia.

Glass Box and Hair Work, W. J. White, Columbia.

Fancy Work Stand, W. J. White, Columbia.  
Sugar Fountain, J. McKenzie, Columbia.

#### EMBROIDERING IN SILK FLOSS, &c.

Best Child's Frock, Mrs. E. M. Martin, Beaufort.

Best Embroidered Silk Dress, Miss V. S. Rice, Union.

Best Sack, Miss Percival, Columbia.  
Best Lady's Shawl, Mrs. Dr. Caughman, Lexington.

Best Crotchet Shawl, Mrs. R. W. Gibbes, Columbia.

Best Child's Embroidered Taffeta, Miss A. G. Stacy, Sumter.

Best Silk Braided Mantilla, Mrs. J. M. Walter, Charleston.

Best Embroidered Silk Scarf, Mrs. D. G. Finley, Anderson.

Best Counterpane, Mrs. Dr. E. S. Marshall, Abbeville.

Best Crib Quilt, Mrs. Holmberg, Columbia.

Best Crotchet Tidy, Miss Fanny Adams, Pendleton.

Best Crotchet Collar and Sleeves, Mrs. G. Kirk, Columbia.

Best Lady's Embroidered Apron, Miss Amanda McConnell, Columbia.

Best Lady's Scarf, Mrs. John Bryce, Columbia.

Best Embroidered Vest, Mrs. M. E. Brady, Columbia.

#### CHEMICALS, OILS, CEMENT, MINERALS, &c., &c.

Best specimen Drugs and Medicines, Messrs. Templeton & Griffin.

Best Slab Marble, Norman & Branson.  
Best Brick and Stone Work, P. W. Landrum,

*Potatoe Yeast.*—A New Bedford lady vouches for the good quality of yeast made after the following recipe:

Cook and mash ten peeled potatoes, pour on a quart of boiling water and stir well, and add a coffee cup of sugar, let this stand a few minutes; pour in a quart of cold water, wanting a gill, and when lukewarm, stir in a pint of yeast, and set in a warm place to rise. When well fermented, put in a stone jug, cork tightly, and tie the cork down and keep it in a cool place. After the first rising keep enough of this yeast for the second batch. A teacup of this yeast is sufficient for two large loaves of bread; most excellent it is for muffins and griddle cakes also. There is no need for hops or flour in it, and in my opinion it is the best yeast I have ever tried, and I have experimented in all known recipes.—Ex.



## The Farmer and Planter.

PENDLETON, S. C.

Vol. IX, No. 1, : : : : : January, 1858.

### The Law of Newspapers.

We would call the especial attention of subscribers who intend discontinuing their paper without paying up *all* arrearages, to the following:

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.
2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publisher can continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible till they settle their bill, and order the papers discontinued.
4. If any subscriber removes to another place without informing the publisher, and their paper is sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.
5. The court has decided that refusing to take a newspaper from the office, or removing and leaving it uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of an intentional fraud.

The Editor has been attending to his duties in Columbia, for the last month. All business communications will be attended to on his return.

### New Year's Address.

We again have the pleasure of offering to the patrons of the Farmer and Planter, the congratulations of the season—a happy new year! To those of us who have kept company during the past year, through the columns of our paper, we would fain hope that our intercourse has been pleasant and agreeable—profitable and instructive. Our feeble efforts have been expended in a noble cause—the dissemination of agricultural information, and the improvement of that profession which ought to stand first in dignity and importance. For there can be no question that society is more indebted to the labours of the farmer and planter for the comfort and happiness of its members, than to any other occupation. In fact, it may be said that all other classes in society are indebted to the farmer and planter, through the blessings of a kind Providence, for their daily bread and all the necessities and luxuries of life. He is also God's greatest Almoner in providing the means of feeding the hungry and clothing the naked—hence his heart ought always to be wide open and feelingly alive to the wants and dis-

treses of his fellow creatures. In thus relieving the necessities of the destitute, we should remember that we ourselves are dependent on the great Almoner of the universe, who fills our barns and granaries from his abundant storehouse. In a very especial manner, and with a liberal hand, has He poured out His blessings during the past year. What a striking contrast throughout the whole length and breadth of our land with the last season—the one was a season of unusual scarcity, owing to the extensive and protracted drought, but the scarcity and deficiency of that season has been more than made up by the teeming abundance of the present one. Our barns and granaries throughout our whole land, have been liberally filled to overflowing. We have all made enough and to spare. But for the financial crash which has swept over the whole country, the last would have been a season of unexampled prosperity to the whole agricultural interest.— Abundant crops and remunerating prices would have crowned our labors with success, and added greatly to our individual and national wealth. But the *banks* in their sovereign power decreed it otherwise; and just as we were reaching forth our hands to pluck the golden fruit, the tremendous crash came. What a mighty engine of power does this privileged class of money-brokers wield in our country. They are more potent and exercise a much stronger influence than our government. Instead of the government regulating the currency, the banks regulate it with a vengeance; instead of supplying the country with a currency founded strictly on a specie basis, and at all times convertible, they expand and flood the country with a spurious, irredeemable paper money. How long will such monstrous abuses be tolerated by our legislators, and the banks go unwhipped of justice! Above all classes in society, the farmers and planters are more interested in a stable, sound currency. Unused to speculations, and unaccustomed to making large risks in business, and content with moderate profits on their investments, they feel, above all other, monetary derangements; their labors and the products of their lands are suddenly and without any apparent cause, reduced in value, and paid for in a suspended bank bill, which is only the semblance and baseless fabric of a specie currency.

Farmers and planters, arise in your might and put down this moneyed aristocracy—this gigantic fraud by which your hard earned labours are filched from you by only the semblance of money—where, as a general rule, a twenty dollar bank bill is only the representative of one dollar in specie. But we must leave this subject to wiser heads, with this single remark, that when we farmers and planters give our promissory notes (and a bank a bill is only a promissory note), and it is not paid, the holder hands it over to a lawyer, if there is no defence, judgment is obtained, our property is levied on, and if there is not enough to pay the debt, we are incarcerated at the mercy of the creditor till we can be released by the insolvent debtors act.— But when a bank corporation refuses or cannot pay their promissory notes, they suspend, and then there is an end of it. The bill holder has to pocket the

loss. It is true their assets may be levied on and sold, but these lordly aristocrats can't be arrested, because they are a corporate body. Suppose, brother farmers, we declare ourselves a corporate body, and suspend when we can't conveniently pay. But the legislature won't grant us this privilege which they grant to banks. We have to *plank up the dollar*—the specie dollar too—the round silver or the yellow boys, or else they will sell our lands and negroes, and if they are not enough to pay the debt, they will shop us and keep us in jail till we can swear out.

But enough of the banks. We hope our legislature will do something to restrain these irresponsible institutions—at all events, restrict them from issuing *ad libitum*, their irredeemable paper, and increase the penalty of suspension. We would even go so far as to make it a criminal offence, and a forfeiture of their charters.

We have said thus much on a subject not strictly within our province, but the evil has to be controlled by public opinion, and we, as the organ of the farmers and planters of South Carolina, would raise our feeble voice against the monstrous abuses which have been practiced on the whole community by banking institutions.

And now at the commencement of a new year and a new volume, we say to the friends and patrons of the Farmer and Planter, we enter into our labor with renewed zeal, and pledge ourselves to do our best to promote the interest and improvement of agriculture. We feel the responsibility of our position. We would it were in abler hands, and most gladly would we resign it to one more capable of directing the helm. But as long as we can wield a pen, and have kind friends to support us, we cannot suffer the only agricultural journal in our State to go down.

#### Apologetic.

In the December number, our readers have seen an article on "Chinese Sugar Cane or Millet," which seems to be out of place as to time, and for which we have to apologize to our friend, the writer, (W. S. LYLES). It should have appeared in the March or April number, but was misplaced, to our regret, and only again come into our hands just before the making up of the December number—when we resolved to publish it, as it contains important facts now demonstrated, and although our friend does not claim to be a prophet, nor the son of a prophet, yet it must be admitted that he *has* claims to foresight in this matter, that every one is not entitled to. We were pleased to see that our friend Broomsedge had come into harness and was working as cleverly as could be desired, from his exhibition of syrup at the State Fair.

Will our friend LYLES give us the result of his labors in syrup making?

#### Reports.

We commence in this number the reports presented at our late Fair, on crops, &c., &c. We have some valuable essays, which, we regret, were not received in time for this number. They shall appear, however, in due time—will lose nothing by age.

#### Acknowledgments.

REPORTS OF THE PATENT OFFICE.—The Hon. Commissioner has our thanks for a package of 3 vols. of Patent Office Reports for 1856. We have had time only glance over that relating to agriculture, &c., with which we are much pleased, and more especially the horticultural department, with its beautiful colored plate of Peabody's strawberry. Nothing, except the fruit itself, could exceed it. We are, upon the whole, disposed to yield it the palm of excellence over all previous volumes we have seen.

#### Chinese Sugar Cane—Syrup Making.

We intended in the December number to give the readers of the Farmer and Planter a short account of our operations in syrup making from the Chinese Sugar Cane, (or millet, as some term it,) but, with other original articles, which we much desired to get in, was crowded out. And now every one who has felt any interest in it, has seen so much already written on the subject, that it is, in all probability, stale, especially with those who are yet disposed to doubt, if any such hard cases there be.

The quantity of cane grown by us was less than might have been grown on one acre of tolerable land. We planted at three feet distance, and left but three stalks in a hill; and hence, even with a full stand (which we had not till re-planting two or three times), we should have had but 14,520 canes; whereas on rich land, double that number, and of larger size, might be made. A part of the first of our cane was ground too early, before fully ripe, and a part was caught by the frost before sufficiently matured to yield. We allowed only a few rows to fully mature the grain, the yield of syrup from which was consequently materially diminished, as will appear from the statement below.

In grinding, or rather crushing, we used one of GLAZE & Co.'s two roller mills, which worked satisfactorily with less than one horse-power. In boiling, we used a large kettle formerly put up for the purpose of boiling food for stock, holding about 50 gallons, and a pot holding 15 gallons, put up in a rudely constructed furnace for temporary use. We put into each pail, holding 4 gallons of juice, two large spoons full of the milk of lime—the object being to neutralize whatever acid the juice might contain; but in this we failed to accomplish our object, as indicated by litmus paper used as a test. Nor can we say what quantity would have been requisite to have fully accomplished the object. We feared to push the experiment too far, for we discovered on one trial that the addition of more lime than above stated, caused the syrup to assume a dark color, and to have an unusual taste of iron.

In order to test the density of the juice, we used a hydrometer, which stood at  $0^{\circ}$  in water just taken from a well; but which, in the juice, stood from  $60^{\circ}$  to  $76^{\circ}$ , as will appear from the table below, from which the

results of our operations—so far as noted at the time—will appear:

1857.	GAL.'S JUICE.	HY'D.	GAL.'S SYRUP.
September 17th.	45	60°	8½
" 18th.	54	60°	9½
" 21st.	55	60°	10
" 22d.	55	60°	10
" 29th.	55	74°	11
October 5th.	15	76°	5½
SEED STALKS.	46	60°	7
October 6th.	54	74°	11
" 7th.	54	74°	10½
" 25th.	50	60°	9
	483		92½

The first column gives the date of each grinding—the second gives the degree of density as indicated by the hydrometer—and the third, the yield in gallons of syrup.

It will be seen that the juice from the seed stalks yielded less syrup than is shown in any other line of the table, although the density was equal to that of several other lines.

From 483 gallons of juice, we made 92½ of syrup, which is nearly one gall of syrup to five of juice.

We ground several wagon loads of cane for our neighbors, which yielded about the same average.

For the Farmer and Planter.

**Report of J. Foster Marshall on the Yield of his Wheat Crop.**

In obedience to the requisition of the Premium List, I herewith communicate the "mode of cultivation, amount and kind of manure used, the preparation of the soil, period of planting, the variety of seed used," in my wheat crop.

In the month of October, 1856, I broke up my land intended for wheat, thoroughly with a bull-tongue. This was done to level the land, which my experience teaches me is the first step toward getting a good stand of wheat. The manure used, was cotton seed, and nothing else, at the rate of about 40 bushels per acre. The cotton seed were scattered when I broke up the land.

About the last week in October, I sowed my wheat at the rate of 1½ bushels per acre on the two acres, which when cut and threshed, yielded 73½ bushels. On the fifty acres, I sowed at the rate of about 1½ bushels per acre, which when cut and threshed, yielded 846 bushels.

The kind of wheat I sowed was what is known as the "White blue Stem," or as laid down by Mr. Ruffin, the Virginia White.—This is a late wheat, maturing about ten days after the Alabama or Clark wheat. I think it one of the best varieties of wheat now introduced into my district.

The land was measured by four disinterested

persons, and cut and threshed in their presence. As the Society has done away with the requisition of their certificates, I have submitted my affidavit as to the facts.

J. FOSTER MARSHALL.

Abbeville C. H. S. C. Nov. 2, 1857.

For the Farmer and Planter.

**Report of John T. M. McAfee, on the Yield of his Corn Crop.**

The undersigned begs leave to report to the State Agricultural Society of So. Ca., a crop of fifty acres corn, grown on bottom land on Little Sandy River, in Chester District. The variety of corn planted is what is known with us as the Walker corn, and has been cultivated by the Messrs. Walker, living within three miles of Chester Court House for over forty years. The first five acres measured, yielded on an average 78 bushels per acre. Twenty-nine acres, including the five measured, sixty-one bushels per acre; and the fifty acres, including the above, measured fifty bushels per acre, or two thousand five hundred bushels in all. There were but three acres of the above manured, and that was with cotton seed; the cotton seed put on the corn when first planted.

I beg also to report two acres bottom land on the same river; one acre measured one hundred and five bushels, the other acre ninety-five bushels, making two hundred bushels in all; no manure used; planted with the same kind of corn as the above.

The land was broke up with long narrow grabs—distance between rows in best land, three feet; in land not so rich, three feet six inches; all planted in drill, and when brought to stand, about eighteen inches apart. Commenced planting 20th March; when the corn was tolerably well up, run round with narrow grabs, close and very deep, followed in a few days and chopped out; in 10 or 12 days, returned and with straight shovel, edged first furrow; in 12 days, returned and put one furrow with large straight shovel in the middle; in 15 days, put four furrows to a row, followed with hoes and brought to a stand; in about two weeks, broke out middles, and laid by about the last of June.

My whole crop, 130 acres, averaged 34½ bushels to the acre. The crop was not cultivated with the expectation of reporting it to the Society, or I should have been more particular in the exact days it was worked. There is one bushel of the kind of corn I plant, and 35 ears, on exhibition. Respectfully yours,

JOHN T. M. McAFFEE.

Sworn to before Giles J. Patterson, Mag.

For the Farmer and Planter.  
Cotton Planters' Convention.

MAJ. SEABORN.—I saw a communication in the Farmer and Planter for December, from the cotton planters of Perry county, Georgia, signed by Isaac West, chairman, and Jesse H. Davis secretary, proposing and offering for consideration to cotton planters generally, the propriety of holding a cotton planters' convention. This is a subject that I have for some time thought advisable and judicious, the cotton planters' interest being in view. The experience of the past Fall should bring the matter forcibly to the minds of the farmers and planters of the cotton growing states. But for our dependence upon other sections and other bodies of men, we would have realized from 13 to 15 cents for one-third or perhaps one-half of our cotton crop by this time.

The cotton planter is the basis of all commercial classes; his interest should be paramount with his position. We do not desire isolation, but a relative position of independence. Direct southern exportation of cotton by the planter, or, preferably, companies for the purpose, with direct importation of all foreign articles needed, will alone secure and maintain the planters' interest and independence, without which, or an approach to it, he will hang subject to commercial disappointment and embarrassment. Shipping houses in Charleston, Savannah, New Orleans and other points, would soon be ample for all purposes of exportation &c., and thus cut ourselves loose from the commercial emporium of the United States, New York City, the "Vampire bat" to southern interest and prosperity.

I hope the proposition of our friends in Georgia will meet with a hearty response, and with immediate action from all sections of the cotton states. Now is the time to move in this great and important work. The idea may seem stupendous to some, but energy and perseverance can and will surmount all difficulty, placing the southern people before the world the most prosperous and independent. I would suggest to let each state appoint twice the number of delegates she may have representatives in Congress; also the place of meeting be Macon, Ga., the first Wednesday in February next.

Respectfully, M. M. HUNTER.

Scuffletown, Laurens Dist., S. C. Dec. 1857.

For the Farmer and Planter.  
The importance of Deep Plowing.

MR. EDITOR:—Volney, who travelled in this country, and whose acuteness, as an observer

of phenomena, was very great—remarked that, to judge by the way the cultivators of the soil were going to work, as to tillage, and baring the surface of the country by cutting down immense forests, that the whole country would soon become a sterile, sandy desert. I am just quoting the substance of what I have read, from memory. No doubt that his ideas were these, viz.: that the felling the woods too profusely, was bad; because the attractive power of the earth for clouds, was much diminished by it; and, therefore, only tempestuous, sudden, and abundant rains falling in torrents, was the only moisture such a surface could attract; and what is the consequence of such stormy rains on our lands generally, and everything being considered as to the quality of the soil, the want of proper rotations of crops, and especially the miserable apology called *plowing the land*, or preparing it for any kind of crop.—Therefore, this very shallow plowing, and the heavy rains on it, easily wash the fertilizing soil, the salts of the earth, and the very elements most necessary to constitute the soil, and in order to easily cultivate the land, in an economical point of view. Gullies next follow, and the land becomes sterile, for the fertilizing rains run off from its surface; springs dry up, and dills even with the deepest wells in the country. The remedy to these many evils, is self-evident—deep, very deep, plowing and trenching, by which the rain would be absorbed by the high lands, and even in most of our low bottoms, that are now completely inundated, and often the crop on it is carried off, would not be liable to such a consequence.

Colomella, among the Romans, as far back as 1800 years ago; and Oliver de Serris in the 15th century, who was the father of a great agricultural reform in France, have both recommended deep culture of the soil for all kinds of crops; but especially for the vine, in order to make it more productive, and to prolong the life and productiveness of the whole vineyard. Few things have so little changed, as to its methods of cultivation, as the vine. The modes in Gaul, during the reign of the Romans, are yet in full force in modern France. Though it is more than probable that vineyards existed in Gaul before the empire of the Romans, because the French modes are entirely different from the Italian culture, which, of course, is suited to that congenial climate, to the vine and to the volcanic warm soil of Italy, still more calculated to convert the thoroughly elaborated sap into saccharine matter, and produce a complete maturity, and therefore superior wine.

There is no one thing more essential for the

successful cultivation of the vine, which is to last a long number of years, (if we except the choice of the most appropriate vines for the locality) than the deep and careful breaking of the ground; say, at least two feet deep. If the operation is thought too costly, trenches, at 8 feet apart, 3 feet wide, and 2½ feet deep, may be made nearly horizontal, leaving the lower side of the trench higher, in which the vines may be planted, at 8 feet in the row, or even more, for our vines run more than the Europeans, and require more space; or holes a yard cube, may be used at the same distances. I have used, in preference, the two last methods, for economy; but first using the plow to break the ground, several successive times in the same trench.

On this subject of the preparation of the ground, there is no difference of opinion in any country in the world—the vine being, of all the plants that man cultivates, the one that absorbs most from the soil, and we may be easily convinced of the fact, from the abundance of sap that flows in the spring, where pruned too late.

In my next, I shall dwell on the manuring and pruning of vines; than which, there are no two subjects more difficult to understand clearly the true philosophy.

J. TOGNO.

Abbeville C. H., S. C.

N. B. Please let your subscribers know that I have for sale, plenty rooted vines and cuttings, and oblige your friend,

J. T.

The following account of Peabody's Prolific Corn, we take from the "Planter and Soil," and regret we have not the cut to represent it.—ED. F. & P.

#### Peabody's Prolific Corn.

The engravings of this remarkable corn, which we give in this number, were drawn from nature. Sketched in the field, when the kernel was in the milk and all the leaves in full perfection.

The artist has not made a variation of a hair in the position of ear, leaf, silk or tassel. We give two specimens, one a tilled stalk, and one a stalk without tillers. We could have given better specimens of tillered stalks, as there are great numbers in the field with three, four and five tillers, but we prefered to select that which was a good average of the crop, with good culture and management. The increased productiveness of this corn, over the common corn, has been brought about by good culture, and only sowing the seed from tillers. Some cultivators that have suckered it through mistake, have found that the single stalks produce a greater number of ears, and that the ears are larger than those of any of the tiller-

ed stalks, consequently, they recommend suckering it. But if suckering should be kept up, the productive qualities of the corn will be lost. That which is saved for seed, should be taken from tilled stalks. It might be well to cultivate one expressly for seed, with all the tillers remaining, and sucker the balance. But we prefer to let the tillers remain. It matters not whether the ears are big, so there are enough of them, and the grain is sound and heavy. This corn will average over sixty pounds to the bushel shelled, and on lands that, with good culture, and good manuring, will make twenty bushels to the acre, it will easily make one hundred bushels. This is what we expect to average this season, on lands that would not have brought of the common corn this season, (for we had a drouth of seven weeks, through its most critical period, silking and tasseling,) ten bushels to the acre. We are assured by some that have planted this corn on the richest lands of the bottoms, that it will turn out at the rate of two hundred bushels to the acre. We presume there are some also, that planted this corn, and because it was *prolific*, gave but little heed to its proper culture, and have been disappointed with its yield.

The manner in which we planted and cultivated this corn was this: In March, we subsoiled our land as deep as two strong mules could pull the sub-soil plow, the ground having been before broken up. In April we run two furrows five feet apart with a sharp seeder, one after the other, in the bottom of this furrow we scattered guano at the rate of one sack of about 160 pounds to the acre, this we covered with the seeder, and on it planted the seed. The seed we dropped four feet apart, two in a hill to save missing stalks. When the corn was six inches high, we gave it one plowing with a seeder, and thinned it out to one stalk to the hill. This is all the plowing it has ever had, the after culture has been done with the horse hoe, an implement that stirs the soil without breaking the roots. We have had no secrecy in our culture—none in our planting. We have challenged investigation. From the time the crop was two feet high, up to its gathering, at least one thousand intelligent persons have walked through our fields and examined it in the leaf, in the tassel, in the silk and in the ripened ear. We gave public introductions to the whole Southern Press to come and look, and the universal expression of every intelligent mind has been, that it was a most wonderful crop for such land to produce. We intend, next season, to make our land richer, and give the corn greater distance. Two feet by five, is near enough, one grain to a hill.—Maunsell White, Esq., of New Orleans, writes us that eight feet by eight, is near enough on his rich lands. This corn is some weeks earlier than the common corn, which is a great advantage, as it is not as liable to injury from drought. We have heard it remarked by intelligent cultivators, that a perfect natural sketch of growing corn had never been published. We now supply that desideratum. The sketcher copied nature, and the engraver has done the sketch justice.

HORT. ED.



## Ladies' Department.

For the Farmer and Planter.

### Gardening and Orcharding.

MR. EDITOR:—A copy of the *Farmer and Planter* is now before me, in which I see communications of ladies, on subjects kindred to the welfare and prosperity of the domestic circle, and the human family at large; and as you earnestly solicit the opinions of our sex, I, for one, not flattering myself to do much, am willing to contribute anything that may support your columns, or elicit *truths* connected with the subject-matter of improvement.

Cotton, the King of commerce, connected with its necessary gain, has absorbed the minds of the sterner sex, and has been more fully developed in its culture, whilst its subordinates have lost measure, and have been left in our hands. These subordinates are invaluable; indeed they are almost the veins of life. The cultivations of such fruits and such vegetables as belong to the table, are not worthless in importance.

Gardening is a subject worthy of meditation. However, it seems it has demanded so little attention of late years, that, comparatively speaking, there is no such thing as a modern garden. Some have supposed it only to be a beautiful parterre into which is gathered all the flowers and beauties of nature; sufficient to dazzle the eye and treasure up the affections of the heart. Thus far it is well for the young and gay, but besides this, there is found in it about half the support of the human family. Who could pass through the summer season with a table debarred of vegetables? Reader, did you ever think that in it is found half your support? It is true, bread and meat cometh otherwise, but these alone are considered a hard living. Although, it might be said that these are sufficient to support life and the well-being of mankind; yet with judicious economy, half the amount of meat and bread, which costs very high, may be supplanted by the cheap culture of the garden. The potatoe, in itself, might suffice for bread, whilst other vegetables, com-

blined with the poultry of the yard, would suffice for meat. The garden at present I have supervision over, is divided into several parts: First, cabbages, lettuce, salads, onions, &c.; second, potatoes and melons; third, peas, beans and turnips; and lastly, flowers and herbs of medicinal qualities. The use and importance of the above named necessaries, as I conceive, belong to the garden proper, no one could well deny. Of the plan of the garden and its best mode of culture, I shall hereafter speak.

The ancients, especially the Jewish nations, took great care in their gardens—then the only fields in cultivation. It was then the province of lordly man to merchandise, barter, to build cities, erect mansions and palaces; no fields of cotton, plantations of sugar, and rice, and tobacco. Slight manufactories of "purple and fine linen" and goods, were carried on while the horticulturists went forth, and generally woman to cultivate these spots with the "finger's care," for the chief maintenance of all. The garden has been known since the era of the world, and no date has attatched little importance to its cultivation. The garden of Eden was the first field of fruit in which our first parents were known in the image of their maker. It seems that in it at this early period of our existence, were to be had all the wants of man. In it were "fruits of every kind," and although it may not now be what it once was, yet in its proportion to other things, it is equally good.

The history of gardening might well be detailed, had we time and space. The gardens at Rome were well attended, and principally supported the commonwealth. These cultivated spots by the ancients, might be termed by some a "lame agriculture." But we protest that horticulture was known in the world only for the support of life; since, in more modern times, extended fields of cotton, grain and tobacco, have developed in their beautiful workings, agriculture.

Orcharding is another subject worthy of discussion, and highly useful to all. How often do we see in the lower districts of our State, in the fall season, apples selling from \$2 50 to \$5 per bushel, and other fruits in proportion, and sometimes can hardly be had at any price, just because we have not that energy so desirable to make fruits plenty. It is an easy matter to raise fruit of every kind. All have a small orchard, and with a little care in seedlings and graftings, we might make them plentiful and lay up a full store for winter. It requires no prarie or alluvial bottom to grow the orchard.

We have but to select an even plane, and with manure, care and industry, do wonders for our welfare. On the poorest land I have seen propagated the best orchard within my knowledge. From this orchard I have seen the rarest delicacies served for the table, such as preserves, jellies, pies, &c.; and not only at the period of ripening, but all the winter, all the year, from June to June. How delicious to have a green apple pie about Christmas or the first of January.

Mr. Editor, while agriculture is being developed by man, it is hoped that the old and young ladies may engage a helping hand in gardening and orcharding, poultry raising and the like, so that economy and industry thereby blended, may work out a great change in the prosperity of our country. More anon. LUCY.

For the Farmer and Planter.

**Recipe for the manufacture of Muscadine Wine.**

To one gallon of muscadine juice, add three pounds of good sugar. Let it remain open till done fermenting, then strain and cork tight. It will be ready for use in a month or two.

As to the quality of such wine, see the Muscadine Wine exhibited by MRS. COL. FAIR.

For the Farmer and Planter.

**To make a Cheese.**

Take a piece of rennet 6 inches long and 3 wide, soak it in a pint and a half of water 8 hours, adding a table spoon full of salt. Then take 5 gallons of milk heated to 95°—strain the preparation of rennet into the milk, stirring it briskly all the while—let it stand 30 or 40 minutes till it coagulates, then break the mass into pieces with a knife or spoon, after which the whey will rise. Then gently press it with your hands into a small mass, pour the whey off and set it by to cool in a basin till morning. Then pick or crumble the curd into pieces the size of grains of corn, salt it to your taste, lay a cloth in the cheese hoop, put the curd in, nicely folding the cloth over the top, putting on at first a gentle pressure, then the cheese curd every 6 hours, increasing the pressure each time. Keep it in press 48 hours.

ELIZABETH BOBO.

Musgrave's Mills, Nov. 9th, 1857.

**How to Raise Turkeys.**

A correspondent of the Country Gentleman says: Will you allow me, in farmer style, through your paper, to give my experience in raising turkeys, for the benefit of your readers. I commenced raising turkeys about three years ago, but never met with any success until the

last season, 1855. The winter previous I wintered one tom and two hens, and they laid sixty eggs, from which I raised forty-five turkeys from fifty hatched. Until the last summer I never could raise over one-fourth that were hatched.

My mode of raising them is as follows: I made each hen lay two sittings, which they will do without injury if they are well wintered. I sit two sittings under dunghill fowls and the remainder under turkey hens. As soon as they are hatched, I have crates provided and immediately shut them up for four weeks, and then let them range anywhere on the farm. I feed them on Indian meal and keep buttermilk constantly before them. I throw about half an ounce of asafoetida in their milk each day, and this keeps them lively, and they are never bothered with lice. When I let them out, they seem to grow up without any more trouble.

I think there is nothing that will afford our farmers greater profit than turkeys, if managed in this way. I think the whole secret of my success lies in the asafoetida. My debt and credit stands as follows:

Dr.	
To three old turkeys,.....	\$3 00
To four bushels of corn,.....	3 00
To meal fed young ones,.....	5 00
To one pound of asafoetida,.....	96
	\$11 96

Cr.	
By 45 turkeys raised and sold at \$1, \$45 00	\$45 00
By three old ones,.....	3 00
By two bushels manure,.....	3 00
	\$51 00
	11 96

Leaving a nett profit of..... \$39 04 on three turkeys in one year, or \$13 profit on each turkey.

If any of your readers can give me any more advice on the subject, I will be thankful for it.

JASON H. TUTTLE.

Sandyston, N. J.

**Blackberry Wine and Cordial.**—“To make a wine equal in value to port, take ripe blackberries or dewberries, and press them; let the juice stand thirty-six hours to ferment; skim off whatever rises to the top; then to every gallon of the juice add a quart of water and three pounds of sugar (brown will do); let this stand in open vessels for twenty-four hours; skim and strain it; then barrel it until March, when it should be carefully racked off and bottled. Blackberry cordial is made by adding one pound of white sugar to three pounds of ripe blackberries, allowing them to stand twelve hours; then pressing out the juice, straining it, adding one-third spirit, and putting a teaspoonful of finely powdered allspice in every quart of the cordial. It is at once fit for use. This wine and cordial are very valuable medicines in the treatment of weakness of the stomach and bowels, and are especially valuable in the summer complaints of children.”—*Exchange.*